

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The above-identified patent application has been reviewed in light of the Examiner's Action dated November 5, 2007. Claims 1, 4, 12, 18, 19, 24 and 28 have been amended, and Claims 3, 13, 23 and 29-31 have been canceled, without intending to abandon or to dedicate to the public any patentable subject matter. Accordingly, Claims 1, 4-7, 12, 14, 15, 17-19, 21, 22 and 24-28 are now pending. As set forth herein, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the claims are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 5-7, 12, 14, 15, 17-19, 21, 22 and 25-31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102e as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Number 6,665,375 to Forlenza et al. ("Forlenza"). However, these rejections have been overcome by the amendments to the claims set forth above, in which subject matter indicated by the Office Action as being allowable has been incorporated into the independent claims.

In particular, the Office Action indicates that Claims 3, 4, 13, 23 and 24 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected based claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In the amendments set forth above, Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the elements recited by allowable Claim 3. Accordingly, it is submitted that Claims 1 and 4-7 are now in condition for allowance. In addition Claim 12 has been amended to incorporate the elements recited by allowable Claim 13. Therefore, it submitted that Claim 12 and dependent Claims 14, 15 and 17-18 are now in condition for allowance. Claim 19 has been amended to incorporate the elements recited by allowable Claim 23. Therefore, it is submitted that Claim 19 and dependent Claims 21, 22 and 24-27 are now in condition for allowance.

Claim 28 has been amended to specify that in response to a loss of the first communication channel the first communication channel state information is provided to a second means for controlling by the first communication client means. Accordingly, amended Claim 28 specifies that the information stored in the communication client means is sent to a second call controller after a loss of a call signaling channel. Such aspects of the claimed invention are not disclosed by Forlenza, which relates to supporting the use of a telephone by

hearing impaired users, not to contacting alternate call controllers for call state information. Accordingly, the rejection of Claim 28 as anticipated by Forlenza should be reconsidered and withdrawn.


Claims 28 and 30 stand rejected on the grounds that it is not possible to determine the equivalence of recited elements as required by 35 U.S.C. § 112, sixth paragraph. In particular, the Office Action finds that the words "first means for controlling features associated with a communication channel" are an attempt to recite an unknown element as "a means" for performing a specified function. As understood by applicants, it appears that this rejection finds that it is unclear what is controlled. However, applicants submit that it is clear from the specification that the means for controlling, which are provided by call controllers 208, control access to a communication network, maintain call state information including call setup, tear down, address translation, billing information or other call features. (Specification p. 2, ll. 15-21; p. 4, ll. 13-24.) With respect to the recited first means for controlling and second means for controlling, it is clear from the specification that these means are provided by the call controllers 208. (Specification p. 4, ll. 13-24; Fig. 2.) Therefore, the rejections of Claims 28 and 30 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

The application now appearing to be in form for allowance, early notification of same is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if doing so would expedite the resolution of this case.

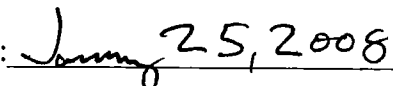
Respectfully submitted,

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